THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). there is no project proposal on the setting up of a biotechnology park forwarded by the Government of Kerala. However an action plan on Ernakulam as a Biotechnology district has been under examination by a high level expert committee of the State Government. The final project document has not yet been received.

Joint Venture with Indonesia to produce Palm Oil

3537. KUMAR PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up joint ventures with Indonesea to produce palm oil;

(b) if so, the name of the places identified for setting up palm oil production units; and

(c) the cost of those units each and site selected for the location of each of those units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Government Accommodation to Reporters

3538. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of reporters accredited by the Press Information Bureau who have been allotted Government accommodation;

(b) the number of residential accommodation in the reporters pool; and

(c) whether the number of residential accommodation in the pool is proposed to be increased keeping in view the increasing number of reporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Ninety-three accredited Press Correspondents and News Cameramen have been allotted Government accommodation from the existing Press Pool.

(b) and (c). The allotment under the Press Pool were frozen till May, '90 when it was decided to revive and increase the number of units in the Press Pool from 110 to 120 units. Guidelines for allotment were also under review and have been recently finalised. Allotments for the increased number will commence soon.

[*English*]

Growth of Small Scale Industries

3539. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the hurdles faced by the Small Scale Industries in their growth perspectives throughout the Seventh Plan period;

(b) the growth rate of Small Scale Industries in the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) the growth rate to Small Scale Industries expected in the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Some of the problems faced